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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME
OF THE
CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE (CDCC):

- I. WORK PROGRAMME OF THE CDCC
- II. SPECIFIC AUTHORITY, ENDORSEMENT, SUPPORT AND OTHER ACTION REQUESTED FROM CDCC IN CONNECTION WITH THE SECRETARIAT'S WORK PROGRAMME



UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
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INTRODUCTION

1. The following is a detailed report on the activities of the ECLAC/CDCC Secretariat accomplished during the intersessional period June 1985 - April 1986.

2. Part I covers the detailed activities, by sector, carried out since the Ninth Session held in May-June 1985 and includes a brief description of activities not accomplished, postponed or discontinued. It also records activities proposed for the next period. Part II summarizes, for ease of reference, specific matters for which the authority, endorsement or support of the Committee is requested.

3. Consequent upon decisions and recommendations made at the Ninth Session of CDCC, it will be observed that activities under certain programme areas have increased. These activities have focused on the establishment of the joint ECLAC/ILPES Planning Unit for the Caribbean and the joint ECLAC/CELADE Demography Unit at the Secretariat and the development of several projects involving the concept of Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (TCDC).

4. Additionally, increased attention is being devoted to developing and intensifying intersectoral linkages within the Secretariat's work programme. Equally, greater attention has been paid to increasing linkages among countries in the subregion and between Caribbean and Latin American countries in the furtherance of the promotion of Caribbean social and economic development.



I. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE CDCC

A. Technical Co-operation Among Developing Countries

Co-operation in information

5. The ECLAC/CDCC Secretariat has continued to provide information support to Caribbean development and co-operation activities by developing and strengthening sectoral information networks which enable individual countries to draw on the combined information resources of all member states as well as on other subregional, regional and international data bases.

Activities accomplished

6. The main activities accomplished with respect to the sectoral networks in the Caribbean Information System are given below:

(a) Development of the Caribbean Information System for Economic and Social Planning (CARISPLAN).

7. The IDRC-funded project to strengthen the Caribbean Information System advanced with the installation of a Hewlett-Packard mini-computer, its peripherals and the provision of MINISIS software at the ECLAC/CDCC Secretariat. Training in the operation and use of the new system was provided by IDRC personnel to the entire staff of the Caribbean Documentation Centre and to the Librarian of the CARISPLAN focal point in Trinidad and Tobago. The CARISPLAN data base was transferred from ECLAC, Santiago to the ECLAC/CDCC Secretariat's Caribbean Documentation Centre in Port of Spain and operations are functioning smoothly.

8. In order to test the feasibility of external access to the data base, a microcomputer has been installed at the CARISPLAN focal point in Trinidad and Tobago. Technical support is being provided to the focal point to create its own data base and provide input to the CARISPLAN data base. Similar support is envisaged for the other CDCC member countries.

9. Equipment for the microfiche laboratory has already been installed. The role of the laboratory will be multi-faceted: replication of CARISPLAN documents for dissemination to national focal points to enable on-site access; preservation of patents granted by member countries, and document delivery to satisfy requests.

Specific work programme activities completed include:

(i) Preparation of bibliographic information; publication and distribution of CARISPLAN Abstracts No. 10 in August 1985. With the expansion of in-house capabilities the ECLAC/CDCC Secretariat, Port of Spain will assume full responsibility for the production of future CARISPLAN Abstracts, including photocomposition, generation of multi indexes, etc.;

- (ii) Publication and distribution of seven issues of the Current Awareness Bulletin. (The Documentation Centre also carried out a selective dissemination of current information to individual units of the Secretariat in support of their work programme);
- (iii) Technical assistance was provided to the Government of Saint Lucia in preparing a methodology to upgrade the documentation centre at the Ministry of Finance and Planning to national status and in formulating a national information policy to guide the development of the information sector within the national development plan; and
- (iv) In-service training at the Secretariat was offered to library staff from Grenada, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago;

(b) Caribbean Agricultural Information Network (CAGRIS).

10. The ECLAC/CDCC Secretariat as Co-ordinator of the Caribbean Information System has been supporting and monitoring the development of this network.

11. The University of the West Indies Library at St. Augustine, as the agency responsible for the development of the agricultural information network has undertaken a number of specific activities to implement this network. The project activities are to be phased over a three-year period covering the English-speaking member countries in the first year and the others in the second and third years. This system will be fully compatible with the rest of the network thereby facilitating easy direct access to the various data bases.

12. The Project Co-ordinator visited all the relevant authorities in the English-speaking member countries to discuss the network and its potential benefits during the period. A two-week workshop will be held in early March to prepare a small cadre of Caribbean librarians to conduct the required training at the national level relative to the implementation of the network.

(c) Caribbean Patent Information Network (CARPIN).

13. Progress in the development of the Patent Information and Documentation Unit (PIDU) during the period under review was accelerated with the appointment of a patent information specialist and a part-time research assistant and with significant technical assistance from the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). In accordance with the priorities identified at the ECLAC/WIPO/CARICOM Regional Meeting on Industrial Property in the English-speaking Caribbean countries, the Republic of Haiti and the Republic of Suriname, held in Barbados in March 1985.

The following activities were accomplished:

- (i) Member countries were reminded about the recommendations of the meeting and urged to designate a national focal point and to provide the PIDU with a hard copy of all patents granted since 1962. Follow-up visits were made by the head of PIDU to sensitize countries to the aims and objectives of PIDU and to pursue the reproduction of the documents. Patent documents were received from Barbados, Republic of Guyana, the Republic of Haiti, Jamaica and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago;
- (ii) Technical assistance was received from WIPO in the form of two one-month consultancies. The first, in July, prepared guidelines for the operation of PIDU, determined the volume and organization of patent documentation to be held by PIDU, outlined activities to be undertaken, and the type of services to be provided. The second consultant classified some of the patent documents received, trained PIDU staff in the use of the international patent classification as a tool for search and examination, recommended procedures for the setting up of search files and identified patent "families" for patents with foreign priority.

Assistance was also provided by WIPO and the European Patent Office to enable the Project Co-ordinator of the Caribbean Information System to participate in a three-week training seminar on patent information;

- (iii) The patent information system has been established at the ECLAC/CDCC Secretariat and a computerized data base of patents granted in the Caribbean has been created and will continue to be updated to include records for patent documents as they are received; and
 - (iv) PIDU has begun a core collection of non-patent scientific and reference documents; and
- (d) Congress of information professionals

14. The Secretariat has sought extrabudgetary resources for a meeting to formulate the basis of a regional information policy for the Caribbean based on a working document which will be prepared by a consultant after consultations in at least six member countries.

Other activities

15. The Secretariat provided advice and programme support to two UNESCO consultants who undertook a feasibility study on the establishment of a regional data base and information system on research facilities, research and development projects and researchers, to be set up at the ECLAC/CDCC Secretariat within the framework of the Caribbean Science and Technology Information Network (CARSTIN).

16. The Secretariat also jointly organized with UNESCO, a Regional Seminar on Information Services and Systems on Research in Progress in Latin America and the Caribbean 20-24 January 1986, and mounted an experimental data base to demonstrate to the participants the viability of UNESCO's draft manual on referral systems. The final report of the seminar will be distributed to all CDCC member countries.

17. The Secretariat participated in a Workshop on a Caribbean Network for Education Information and Documentation (CARNEID) and outlined possibilities for an education information network within the framework of the Caribbean Information System.

18. The Caribbean Documentation Centre arranged and participated in a two-day meeting of the International Committee on Social Science Information and Documentation.

19. Consultations were also held with the CARICOM Secretariat on various areas of common interest including trade information systems.

Activities proposed for the next period

20. The Secretariat will continue the development and operation of the Caribbean Information System including: expansion of the information data base, publication of CARISPLAN Abstracts and Current Awareness Bulletins, assistance to CAGRIS and to member governments of CDCC in connection with the development of their documentation centres and co-operation with subregional, regional and international organizations involved in the field of information and documentation in the Caribbean. In addition, the following activities will be undertaken:

- (i) A short videotape on the Caribbean Information System and its services will be prepared and distributed to governments throughout the region in an effort to promote use of the system;
- (ii) A regional workshop will be held in May 1986 to demonstrate the use of microcomputers in the storage and retrieval of bibliographic information. Three national user-education workshops/demonstrations will be held to focus on information sources, searches and retrieval from machine-readable data bases;
- (iii) Establishment of access to United Nations and international commercial data bases;
- (iv) Co-operation with UNESCO in the establishment of a data base on research activities in progress in the subregion; and

- (v) Continuation of activities relative to the development of the Patent Information and Documentation Unit (PIDU). A team of experts from WIPO and PIDU's patent information specialist will conduct seminars on various aspects of industrial property: patents, trademarks, industrial design as well as patent information and documentation. The seminars are scheduled to be held in Jamaica, Republic of Haiti, Republic of Guyana, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Lucia.

Specific authority, endorsement, support etc. requested from CDCC

21. Following endorsement of the conclusions by the Committee of the Ministerial Meeting held in Barbados from 4 - 8 March 1985 under the joint auspices of ECLAC/WIPO/CARICOM, the Secretariat requests the support of the Committee in urging member governments to name their focal points for patent documentation and information in order to facilitate the development of this important network. The Committee may wish to express its thanks to IDRC for their generous support in strengthening the activities of the Caribbean Documentation Centre and the information networks of the Caribbean Information System.

Statistical Data Bank and related services

22. The Statistical Data Bank continued its activities in the collection, storage and dissemination of statistical time series of the main economic variables in the CDCC member countries, as well as the encouragement of the establishment of national statistical data bases. The time series as captured in the data base commences in 1970.

Activities accomplished

23. The series have been updated and a publication containing statistical time series for CDCC countries has been prepared. The Office has encouraged the English-speaking Caribbean governments to approach the acquisition of computer hardware with a view to establishing a uniform and compatible set of computers for all countries. This would facilitate the easy transfer of information across countries and between countries and the Secretariat. The Secretariat has itself acquired the type of computer hardware that would make this transfer possible, and has advised the two main fora of statisticians of the English-speaking Caribbean of the possibilities of information interchange. Approaches have been made to the non-English-speaking countries to furnish statistical data to the Secretariat.

24. On the subject of co-operation in information, the Secretariat convened a meeting of statisticians of international, regional and subregional agencies operating in the Caribbean to consider ways and means of reducing the burden of response by countries to numerous requests for data from them. The usefulness of data bases was considered and the sharing of information was recognized as being of the utmost importance. The Data Bank of the Secretariat will be expanded by inclusion of the data series of specialist agencies such as the Caribbean Tourism Research and Development Centre (CTRC).

25. By way of co-operation with other agencies serving CDCC member countries, the Secretariat through its Data Bank personnel presented three lectures at a course on Information Systems for Economic Development conducted in Antigua and Barbuda in mid-1985 under the auspices of the Economic Development Institute of the World Bank, the Economic Affairs Secretariat of the OECS and the Inter-Agency Resident Mission. Data Bank personnel also collaborated with the Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE) in the selection of Saint Lucia for the establishment of a pilot computer system to store and retrieve population data relative to the preparation of programmes for the economic and social development of small areas. The Data Bank has collaborated with, and facilitated the publication of Agricultural Statistics (LC/CAR/G.132), and has assisted researchers with the hard data that complements the bibliographic searches conducted by the Caribbean Documentation Centre. The personnel of the Data Bank are assisting in the design of a national library, archives and information system in Trinidad and Tobago. Such assistance will continue into 1986.

Activities proposed for the next period

26. The Data Bank's files will be transferred to a computer with greater storage capacity. The move towards the recording of quarterly data will be made on a subject matter basis. The unit will continue to disseminate information and encourage information interchange among CDCC member countries.

27. The Data Bank will continue to service externally originating requests for information as well as in-house requests. The Secretariat will undertake to provide technical assistance in terms of providing "hands on" training to statistical personnel from member countries. This training could be beneficial to both country and Secretariat if trainees brought the data of their respective countries for entry according to the file format of the Secretariat. The transmission of statistical data across the telephone line will be attempted as soon as facilities in house and at the point of request are put into place.

Specific authority, endorsement, support etc. requested from CDCC

28. Member countries are urged to accelerate the acquisition of compatible computer hardware that would manage more effectively than by manual processes the data collected and stored for use. Member countries are also urged to access data from the Secretariat and participate more fully in the exchange of information.

Science and Technology

29. The ECLAC/CDCC Secretariat continues to provide secretariat services for the Caribbean Council for Science and Technology (CCST). The Council presently comprises the following participating countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Grenada, Republic of Guyana, Republic of Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Republic of Suriname, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. The Netherlands Antilles are an associate member.

30. The assignment of secretariat staff and a consultant to CCST plus the increased interest on the part of member countries in the work of the Council have all added impetus to the activities undertaken during the reporting period.

31. An important dimension of the CCST activities is the potential for linkages with the work of the Patent Information and Documentation Unit (PIDU). Through co-operation in information relative to patents, a useful source has been developed for the updating of technological information and the transfer of technology.

Activities accomplished

32. The main activities accomplished were:

(a) Convening and servicing the following CCST meetings:

The Seventh Executive Committee Meeting, Trinidad and Tobago, 23 May 1985. The meeting reviewed the stage of implementation of the work programme of the Council and made necessary adjustments. Decisions taken appear in document CDCC/CCST/85/14.

The Fifth Plenary Session, Roseau, Dominica, 27 - 29 November 1985. The proposed work programme for 1985/1986 along with the implementation of the 1984/1985 work programme were considered at this meeting. Some guidelines as to the activities of CCST in the context of the changed realities and developments since the formation of the Council were proposed and the subsequent work programme for 1985/1986 amended accordingly to reflect these concerns.

The following important activities and functions were specifically mentioned:

- (i) Acting as a focal point for TCDC activities in science and technology;
- (ii) Identification of critical issues in science and technology in the Caribbean and the formulation of programmes for which projects can be developed with the participation of existing regional institutions; and
- (iii) Serving as a mechanism for coupling science and technology with industry and as a forum for bringing regional scientists together.

A list of approved projects appears in document CDCC/CCST/85/6/Rev.1.;

33. (b) A Workshop on the Pharmaceutical Sector in the Caribbean has just been completed and its reports will be submitted to the Council for further follow-up action;

34. (c) Publication of CCST Newsletter: The first issue of the Newsletter was published in October 1985 and publication has continued every two months;

35. (d) Completion of two films on agro-industry and communication and information: These films show the current state of the art relative to those subject areas in the Caribbean subregion and it is intended to distribute copies of these films to CCST member countries. It is planned to produce additional films with the co-operation of member countries;

36. (e) Recognizing the high cost of imported animal feed in the region, the Council initiated a project using technical assistance from the United States Virgin Islands in the growing of tilapia aurea in Saint Lucia to be used as a protein source in formulating local animal feed while at the same time using the waste from a pig feeding experiment to grow the tilapia. Such an integrated approach to agriculture and aquaculture can be adopted on a small or large scale production for both fish and animal feed; and

37. (f) Assistance is also being given to member countries in the establishment and analysis of national science councils. This is deemed indispensable for the promotion of science and technology at the national level.

Other activities

38. The Secretariat continues to co-operate with other agencies and organizations in the promotion of science and technology in the region. To that effect, the Secretariat participated in:

- (i) The Workshop on Medicinal Plants sponsored by the Commonwealth Science Council, Saint Christopher-Nevis, 14-18 October 1985;
- (ii) Workshop/Seminar on Problems of Science Popularization organized by CARIRI, Trinidad and Tobago, 8 - 11 October 1985;
- (iii) The Regional Seminar on Information Services and Systems on Research in Progress with UNESCO/CARSTIN, Trinidad and Tobago, 20 - 25 January 1986; and
- (iv) A Regional Consultation on Science Education Research in Latin America and the Caribbean organized by the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago, 12 - 15 February 1986.

The reports of these Workshops/Seminars were presented to all CCST member countries.

Activities not accomplished, postponed or discontinued

39. The following activities are in varying stages of implementation and some are of a continuing nature:

Caribbean Film Festival.

Science and Technology Journal/Magazine for the Caribbean.

Implications of Newly Emerging Technologies.

Animal Feed Production.

Production of Science materials for Television.

A Science and Technology Policy and plan for the region.

Establishment/Improvement of National Research Councils.

Guidelines for these activities are given in document CDCC/CCST/80/6/Rev.1.

40. The Secretariat will continue to make every effort to increase the membership of CCST and to improve the financial status of the Council. Proposals on both of these matters have been put to the member countries for consideration and can be found in document CDCC/CCST/86/1.

Removal of Language Barriers

41. During the period under review, the Ministry of Education of the Netherlands Antilles has been responsible for the co-ordination of a national workshop and co-operation has been extended by the Secretariat.

42. In addition, steps have been taken on the initiative of the Government of the Netherlands Antilles to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of establishing the Caribbean Language Institute. The services of a linguistics adviser have been requested through UNESCO to assist with the study.

43. The Secretariat has drafted a proposal for the further development of this programme which involves the creation of a network of language institutes in the subregion to facilitate further training in the area of foreign languages utilizing existing institutions in the subregion.

Activities proposed for the next period

44. A meeting will be convened to evaluate the reports of the national workshops and to discuss the further implementation and future financing of activities relative to this project.

Council on Social and Economic Development (COSED)

45. At the Ninth Session, the Committee had decided, as an interim measure, that the Secretariat could convene regional encounters on relevant priority subject matters since there had been no progress in convening the long proposed meeting of government officials to consider the Draft Statutes of COSED.

46. It has not been possible to convene the first of these encounters during the period since the last session.

Co-ordination in Planning

Activities accomplished

47. The Joint ECLAC/ILPES Planning Unit for the Caribbean has been established at the ECLAC/CDCC Secretariat, Port of Spain since September 1985. A staff member has been transferred from ILPES, Santiago, to ECLAC, Port of Spain, to complement the resources of the Unit. The Unit will assist CDCC member countries in the execution of their programmes in the field of economic and social development planning through training, advisory services, technical co-operation, and in the management of national economies and policy analysis.

48. The Secretariat has circulated to its member countries and relevant regional organizations the preliminary work programme for the Planning Unit for their reaction and comments.

49. A draft paper "Towards a New Planning Approach in Small Economies" has also been circulated for comments. This paper has been prepared in the context of CDCC's initiative relative to support to small-island developing countries.

50. The Secretariat has initiated work on a Caribbean Directory of Planners. This will include information on planning officials, national and regional institutions involved in economic and social development planning at the macro and sectoral levels. Among the purposes of the directory are:

(a) The provision of as wide a coverage as possible for the distribution of the proposed ECLAC/IPLES Planning Review which will be published biannually by the Unit geared to planners in CDCC member countries;

(b) The facilitation of contact, dialogue and communication and the provision of a medium for the exchange of ideas and experience in socio-economic matters; and

(c) The facilitation of circulation of documents, papers and relevant information on economic and social development.

51. Relevant articles on economic and social development planning have been selected and more are being sought for publication in the "ECLAC/ILPES Planning Review".

52. The Secretariat participated in the eighth meeting of the Technical Sub-Committee of ILPES, held in Bogota, Colombia from 20 - 21 January 1986. At that meeting the preliminary work programme for the ECLAC/ILPES Planning Unit for the Caribbean was approved and fully endorsed.

53. Support in the form of advisory services was given to the Government of Belize in the preparation of its Economic Development Plan, the Agricultural Sector Plan and the Tourism Sector Plan.

54. The Secretariat participated in and provided support to an economic analysis course for middle-level planning officials, sponsored jointly by CDB/EDI/ILPES in Barbados from 30 September to 18 October 1985.

55. Discussions and technical consultations were held with the directorate of the Planning Unit of Barbados on possible ways of assisting that country in monitoring and evaluating its economic performance as and when required. The Secretariat is also exploring ways to assist Barbados in re-evaluating the recently formulated Development Plan of Barbados, 1983-1988.

56. Consultations and informal meetings were held with local planners, regional institutions and UNDP representatives in Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados for the purpose of establishing institutional links which would facilitate collaboration and horizontal co-operation.

57. The ECLAC/ILPES Planning Unit collaborated in other areas of the Secretariat's work programme particularly the ECLAC/CELADE Demography Unit, the Statistical Data Bank, Agriculture, Transport and other main areas of activity.

Activities not accomplished, postponed or discontinued

58. The two expert working group meetings on physical and regional planning and on transport planning earlier scheduled were not convened.

Activities proposed for the next period

59. The Secretariat plans to convene a meeting of planning officials of CDCC countries and at least one expert working group meeting before the next meeting of Ministers and Heads of Planning of Latin America and the Caribbean, and the meeting of the Technical Committee in Havana, Cuba in 1987.

60. It is planned to convene seminars on planning in small Caribbean countries in collaboration with appropriate United Nations agencies and regional and national organizations during 1986.

61. The Secretariat plans to publish several documents and reports including the ECLAC/ILPES Biannual Planning Review and the Caribbean Directory of heads of planning, planning officials etc..

Specific authority, endorsement, support etc., requested from the committee

62. Member countries are asked to endorse or otherwise comment on and to support and participate in the work programme of the Joint ECLAC/ILPES Planning Unit for the Caribbean, especially in the areas of advisory services, research, training, and the promotion of horizontal co-operation efforts.

B. Agricultural Sector

Activities accomplished

63. (a) The Agricultural Data Base is being expanded and updated in preparation for the publication of the 1986 edition of "Agricultural Statistics of the Caribbean Countries";

64. (b) A project proposal for the establishment of a Caribbean Co-operation Agricultural Research Network has been completed.

The major objectives of the network have been to strengthen the capability of participating countries in the areas of agricultural research and transfer of technology.

The proposal recommends that the networking activities should be carried out in line with the principles of "Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries" and in collaboration with national, regional and international research institutions;

65. (c) The Development of Rural Agro-based industries in the Caribbean LDC's

The preparatory phase of this project has been completed in accordance with the objectives which include:

- (i) The survey and evaluation of existing small-scale agro-processing activities including the availability of local raw materials in member countries of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS);
- (ii) Pre-feasibility studies to identify an island with a comparative advantage for early development of agro-processing activities; and
- (iii) A feasibility study for a pilot commercial, multiproduct processing unit.

66. These studies have led to the recommendation that a unit should be established in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on a commercial basis to serve as a model to develop management and operational procedures applicable to a limited volume plant using local raw materials and changing product lines. The experience gained with this unit will also serve to guide the development of small-scale commercial agro-processing in other islands of the Eastern Caribbean. Additionally, it is envisaged, as a result of the study, that a small-scale processing unit will be set up in Montserrat where the government has financed the implementation of the

recommendations of the study which has enabled a range of products to be produced for the local market and for limited export sales;

67. (d) Workshop on Food Systems and Food Policy Analysis in the English-speaking Countries of the Caribbean

This workshop was convened in co-operation with the joint ECLAC/FAO Agricultural Division and the FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, Santiago, 16 - 18 December 1985, Port of Spain.

The objectives of the workshop were:

- (i) To identify crucial issues and important factors which must be considered in food policy analysis; and
- (ii) To identify necessary follow-up activities to provide inputs into the formulation status of the countries involved.

Case studies were prepared for the Republic of Guyana, Jamaica, Barbados, the member countries of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago as well as a brief on Belize. Two papers relating to the concepts and methodology of food policy analysis, the evaluation of national food systems; food policy in relation to food security and nutritional considerations in the formulation of food policy were also presented.

The two most important aspects of the food problem were identified as aggregate availability at the national level and access to available supplies by specific socio-economic groups with the latter being the more crucial and intractable problem.

There was full agreement that urgent follow-up actions should be taken to obtain additional information and to carry out detailed analysis of the national food systems. This should be followed by the formulation of specific action programmes to increase food production taking into consideration the national capability of each country and also the potential for regional linkages; and

68. (e) A workshop on Agricultural Planning Systems and Activities in the English-speaking Caribbean countries, was convened on 6 February 1986, Port of Spain, as a joint activity with the FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean and the joint ECLAC/FAO Division.

Case studies of the current agricultural planning systems and procedures were presented for Dominica, Barbados, Belize, Grenada, Republic of Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and also the Republic of Suriname.

The participants gave particular attention to:

- (i) Analysis of the current systems and practices and also the experience gained in agricultural planning;
- (ii) Identification of national needs to develop the required capability in agricultural planning; and

- (iii) Identification of possible areas of co-operation among the English-speaking Caribbean countries in agricultural planning, training and related activities.

The recommendations of the workshop are being prepared for circulation to the relevant governments and agencies.

Activities not accomplished, postponed or discontinued

69. 1. The proposed ad hoc expert meeting of producers, exporters and specialists concerned with tropical fruits as well as that relating to existing land use patterns and the implications for agricultural planning and development were not held due to lack of resources.

70. 2. Resources are still being sought to carry out the preparatory phase of the project on reduction of losses on primary and perishable agro-based food commodities in the Caribbean.

Activities proposed for the next period

71. The following activities are foreseen:

(a) Publication of Volume VII of "Agricultural Statistics of Caribbean Countries" (First Semester 1986);

(b) Analysis of the performance of the agricultural sector in the Caribbean countries, (First Semester 1987); and

(c) In co-operation with FAO and with the relevant national authorities, to document comprehensive national food policies and, where possible, programmes designed to improve the food security status of the English-speaking Caribbean countries.

Specific authority, endorsement, support etc., requested from CDCC

72. The Committee may wish to register its appreciation to the Joint ECLAC/FAO Division and to the FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean in Santiago, for their support in developing linkages directly with the ECLAC Subregional office for the Caribbean and especially for their efforts in jointly convening the Workshop on Food Systems and Food Policy Analysis and also the Workshop on Agricultural Planning Systems and Activities in the English-speaking Caribbean countries.

D. Social Sector

(a) Creole Discourse and Social Development

73. The preliminary phase of the project on Creole Discourse and Social Development, involving a survey of government policies in this area has proceeded according to plan. Documents, publications and information relevant to the project's goals have been collected with the collaboration of several scholars and institutions devoted to the study of creole languages. Preparation of a comprehensive bibliography is in an advanced stage; and

74. (b) Proposed measures for structural adjustment

A draft paper on social aspects of measures for structural adjustment has been prepared by the Secretariat. A revised version will be circulated to member countries of CDCC.

E. Education and Culture

75. (a) The Caribbean Enterprise for the Production and Distribution of Printed and Audio-visual Materials

In part fulfilment of the mandate to review ongoing activities in the area of production of educational materials in the English-speaking Caribbean countries, a questionnaire - Survey of the Preparation, Publishing and Printing of Educational Materials for the Caribbean Region 1985 - was distributed to all CDCC member countries. Preliminary analysis of the data received so far is currently underway. In addition, the Governments of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica and Barbados and the OECS Secretariat have been asked to provide the Secretariat with individual reports on ongoing activities in the area of production of educational materials. A report will be compiled on the basis of this information.

Consideration has been given to the increased number of national initiatives and a decision was taken to place emphasis on the project, not on activities related to the establishment of an enterprise but rather, on the setting up of a co-ordinating system or network of publishers which would utilize existing facilities in the subregion.

A meeting will be convened by the CARICOM Secretariat to discuss the CEPPAM pre-feasibility study and ongoing initiatives. The meeting will be held during the last week of April 1986. The Secretariat has co-operated with CARICOM and UNESCO by providing background information on the project.

ECLAC's present role will be to ensure that linkages are established between CARICOM and non-CARICOM/CDCC countries on the principle of networking of publishing and printing activities in the region; and

76. (b) Cultural exchange programmes

In accordance with the mandate to develop mechanisms for promoting greater economic, social and cultural collaboration among Caribbean countries, the Secretariat is proposing to undertake a series of cultural exchange programmes, particularly between CARICOM and non-CARICOM member countries of CDCC.

Activities not accomplished, postponed or discontinued

77. (a) Network of Centres for Cultural Retrieval and Animation

The assistance of the Peru-based UNDP/UNESCO project organizers was sought and a response is awaited. UNESCO has promised to co-operate with ECLAC on this project when an officer can be appointed in the UNESCO Caribbean Office with the responsibility for museum development; and

78. (b) Social Structural Changes

In the absence of funds, no action has been taken on this project.

Activities proposed for the next period

79. (a) Creole Discourse and Social Development

The monitoring of this project will be continued. The final report of the consultant will be submitted in August 1986 and an evaluative conference will be convened to discuss the findings and recommendations of the report;

80. (b) Proposed Measures for Structural Adjustment

The draft paper will be reviewed in the light of comments received from member governments. Priority projects will be identified and developed in order to approach funding agencies;

81. (c) Network of Centres for Cultural Retrieval and Animation

The Secretariat will continue to seek technical and financial assistance for this project;

82. (d) Cultural exchange programmes

The Secretariat will continue to pursue programmes to encourage the exchange of cultural groups among CDCC member countries; and

83. (e) Social Structural Changes in the Caribbean

The Unit will continue to approach donors for funds for the continuation of this project.

Specific authority, endorsement, support etc., requested from the committee

84. The Secretariat would like to elicit support from the Committee for its proposals on the Language Barriers project.

85. The Committee may wish to express its gratitude to IDRC for its generous funding and keen interest shown in the project - Creole Discourse and Social Development.

F. Integration of Women in Development

Activities accomplished

86. (a) Progress made on ongoing projects funded fully or in part by the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) includes:

(i) Women and Development Planning (RLA/84/W02)

A workshop was convened in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines in collaboration with the Women and Development Unit of the University of the West Indies (WAND) and the Ministry of Women's Affairs in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines as a follow-up to the study "Women as Recipients of Services from Resources Allocated in the National Budget of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines" (LC/CAR/G.150). The workshop report will be circulated;

(ii) Women and Trade (RLA/84/W03)

This is a regional project and a pilot study entitled "Women Traders in Trinidad and Tobago" (LC/CAR/G.151) has been completed. During the period under reference, the Secretariat has undertaken consultation with government institutions and departments and reviewed proposals with a view to extending the project to other countries on the basis of the recommendations of the pilot study. Discussions have also been held with the Women's Bureau of Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Republic of Guyana, Jamaica and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (the latter for follow-up projects). Consultations have also been held with individuals involved in research studies in this field at the University of the West Indies, Cave Hill, Barbados; WAND, Extra-Mural Department, Barbados; University of the Republic of Guyana; Cultural Development Institute, Jamaica; and the CARICOM Secretariat Women's Desk; and

(iii) Production of video film "Ten Years is not Enough - The Caribbean and its Women, 1975-1985"

The production of this film was funded partly by WAND. The film presents an assessment of the achievements of the decade in the Caribbean by women of the subregion. The film provides education/training materials which seek to enhance the understanding of women's issues by the general public, government and non-governmental institutions engaged in women's programmes and facilitates the sharing of experiences and initiatives within the subregion. The film was shown to a large international audience at the Kenyatta Conference Centre in Nairobi, during the end of Decade Conference on Women;

87. (b) During the period under review, the WID Unit at the ECLAC/CDCC Secretariat gave assistance to the preparatory activities of the United Nations End of Decade World Conference on Women's Affairs held in Nairobi, 15 - 16 July 1985. Assistance was also given to the Conference Secretariat with the servicing of the meeting and the briefing of delegates from CDCC member countries. Various conference follow-up activities have also been undertaken;

88. (c) Missions were undertaken to Jamaica, Barbados, Belize, Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Christopher-Nevis and advisory assistance has been provided to various national institutions and groups upon their request for the preparation of project documents, identification of sources for funding etc.. In response to a request from the Minister of Local, Social Affairs and Community Development of Belize, the Secretariat assisted with review and comments on the new plans for decentralized structures for community development in Belize; and

89. (d) Collaboration and co-operation with United Nations Agencies

During the intersessional period, the Secretariat gave support to UNICEF and the United Nations Development Fund for Women in implementation of their WID programmes in the subregion. Assistance was given with developing networks both with government and non-governmental WID organizations in CDCC member countries.

The WID Officer accompanied the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) subregional consultant on a mission to Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Christopher-Nevis in the context of the Participatory Action Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean (PAPLAC). The PAPLAC project will define actions to be supported by UNIFEM in the next five years.

The officer also accompanied a selected group of senior representatives of national bodies for women's affairs in CDCC countries on a UNICEF sponsored study-tour to Zimbabwe and Mozambique. The study-tour explored forms of collaboration and establishment of networks through umbrella organizations in African and Caribbean countries.

Activities not accomplished, postponed or discontinued

90. (a) Women in Export Processing Industries: Data collection on this sub-project has not started owing to the fact that resources to be provided by the Government of the Netherlands have not yet been received. This activity is part of a project entitled "Development of a Data Base on Selected Areas of Women's Participation in Social and Economic Change"; and

91. (b) Teenage Pregnancy

The proposed meeting on Teenage Pregnancy in Caribbean Schools and its Implications for Family Life Education Programmes has not been held. The Secretariat plans to co-operate in convening a similar but larger meeting to be held by UNFPA and other agencies in the subregion.

Activities proposed for the next period

92. (a) Women in Development Planning (RLA/84/W02)

Implementation of this project will continue. A budget study is scheduled to be carried out in the Dominican Republic. Efforts will be made to extend the budget studies to other CDCC member countries, to further elaborate the parameters used for the previously completed studies, and to convene a technical meeting. To this effect, the Secretariat will continue to explore the possibility of financial and other inputs from other organizations in the United Nations system;

93. (b) Women and Trade (RLA/84/W03)

Implementation of this project will continue. It is proposed to complete one national study on "Women and Inter-island Trading" within the scope of the regional project on Women and Trade.

In response to various requests, attempts will be made to hold a consultative meeting on the issue of Women and Trade in the Caribbean, in order to review research done in this field as well as to identify priority areas for action;

94. (c) Technical assistance will continue to be provided to member governments at their request, to the extent that Secretariat resources permit; and

95. (d) Continued assistance and collaboration will be provided to national and subregional organizations and also to United Nations agencies in connection with their activities in the field of Women in Development in the subregion.

Specific authority, endorsement, support etc., requested from CDCC

96. The Committee may wish to acknowledge the continued support provided to the Secretariat by UNICEF and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).

97. The Committee may also wish to express its appreciation to the Government of the Netherlands for agreeing to provide a Junior Professional Officer for a period of two years to assist in the implementation of the Secretariat's programme of work in Women in Development activities.

G. Demography Unit

Activities accomplished /

98. The ECLAC/CELADE Demography Unit, Port of Spain, has recently completed the first year of its operations.

99. During the period, most of the activities of the ECLAC/CELADE Demography Unit were geared to establishing the Unit, developing its work programme, strengthening working relations with CDCC member governments and increasing linkages with relevant subregional, regional and international organizations.

100. Several needs-assessment missions were conducted in some of the English-speaking Caribbean countries resulting in closer working relations between their governments and the Unit, especially in the area of improving the vital statistics system, formulating population policies and integrating population in national economic and social planning.

Ongoing activities

101. (a) Census analysis

A preliminary analysis of 1980 census data for 11 countries was completed (Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Republic of Guyana, Montserrat, Saint Christopher-Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Turks and Caicos). The results are presently being published by the Jamaica Government Printery. The project was funded by UNFPA, with country contributions channelled through CARICOM and the British Overseas Development Agency; and

102. (b) Upgrading vital statistics

The UNFPA funded project for upgrading the vital statistics of the region was formally completed in December 1985. The project, which was intended to form part of a wider programme for improving the quality, quantity and timeliness of population statistics, dealt specifically with the provision of in-service training in the collection, collation, evaluation and processing of vital and migration statistics. In line with the objectives of the project, assistance was provided to eight countries: Commonwealth of the Bahamas, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Christopher-Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

The general findings were that the birth registration of the countries was of doubtful completeness while death registration, though somewhat incomplete in a few countries, was considered fairly satisfactory. On the other hand, the quality of migration statistics was found to be very poor.

The final report with recommendations for improving the system of vital registration was presented to individual countries.

In an effort to ensure continued improvement in the population statistics of the participating countries, the project identified various areas for follow-up activities on which the ECLAC/CDCC Secretariat has already initiated action.

Other activities

103. (a) National Demographic Survey - Guyana

Activities on the national demography survey of the Republic of Guyana were initiated in 1985. Several missions were made to the Republic of Guyana resulting in the preparation of a government approved project document, the development of the survey questionnaire, and the completion of preparation activities for the field survey including sample selection, training manuals, staff recruitment and training. The pilot test is scheduled for April after which the questionnaire will be finalized for the actual field survey. It is expected that the field work, editing and data processing activities will be completed in 1986. In addition to the provision of training, the project will be contributing microcomputers to the Government of the Republic of Guyana;

104. (b) Training in population policy formulation

An intensive ten-day training course in population policy formulation was designed and conducted by the CDCC Secretariat in Saint Christopher-Nevis. The main objective was to strengthen the capabilities of the population policy task forces in understanding population-development interrelations and formulating population policies. The course which was funded and organized by CARICOM/USAID, was attended by 15 persons from four countries (Dominica, Montserrat, Saint Christopher-Nevis and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines).

The final product of the training course was the development of the first draft of an explicit national population policy for each of the four participating countries which are currently involved in the process of refining the final drafts through the assistance of CARICOM, with technical advice provided by the CDCC Secretariat where requested;

105. (c) Retrieval of Census Data for Small Areas by Microcomputer (REDATAM)

Collaboration with CELADE, Santiago, continued on the REDATAM Project which provides for a microcomputer based system for producing census tables for small areas to be made available for use by national statistical offices. A mission was sent to Saint Lucia, the country selected for the pilot test, to finalize the project agreement and make necessary arrangements for obtaining data inputs required for incorporation into the REDATAM System.

The installation of the system as well as related training seminars are expected to be conducted during the months of April-May followed by a five-month testing period during which CELADE will be responsible for maintenance of the system;

106. (d) Population research projects

A research project on the "State of the Art of Population-development interrelations in the Caribbean" has been initiated in collaboration with the University of the West Indies and the Trinidad and Tobago Central Statistical Office. The objectives of this project are to conduct a survey evaluation of current Caribbean literature on the socio-economic determinants and consequences of fertility, mortality and migration, to identify further research needs and to provide policy relevant recommendations.

In addition, three publications were produced by the CDCC Secretariat in the area of population and development: "International Conference on Mexico: Implications for Caribbean" (LC/CAR/G.147); "Guidelines for Population Policy Formulation" (CDCC/PP/G/85/1); and UNFPA Expert Group Meeting Information Paper: "Integration of Population and Development Planning in the English-speaking Caribbean". Also the final draft of a manual on indirect estimates of migration was completed;

107. (e) Technical assistance

Technical assistance has been provided to several governments for the implementation of programmes/projects in various aspects of demography.

Also, in an effort to strengthen the technical capabilities of governments in the region, the CDCC Secretariat provided technical inputs into two training seminars: the World Bank/OECS training seminar for OECS member countries on "Uses of Demographic Statistics in Planning", conducted in Antigua; USAID/University of Chicago course on "Evaluation of Family Planning Programmes for Caribbean countries", conducted in Chicago; and

108. (f) Fellowships

The Secretariat has continued to assist CELADE, Santiago, in the dissemination of information to the English-speaking Caribbean countries on the availability of fellowships for postgraduate studies at Canadian Universities as well as the identification of potential candidates who may qualify for the fellowships.

Activities not accomplished, postponed or discontinued

109. Delays were encountered in the implementation of the programme for collaborating with the Caribbean Documentation Centre in the establishment of a Caribbean Population Information System with links to DOCPAL. This was due mainly to the unavailability of funds.

110. Nevertheless, the CDCC Secretariat continued to implement the first phase of the programme with the development of a bibliography in the areas of fertility, mortality and migration, with special reference to development in the Caribbean, under the "State of the Art" research project. However, funds have recently been obtained for continuation of the programme.

Activities proposed for the next period

111. The work programme for the next year is designed to continue and consolidate activities initiated in 1985.

Activities will continue on the following programmes: Population Information System; National Demographic Survey of the Republic of Guyana; REDATAM; Population and Development Research Project; and Fellowships.

112. In addition, a number of new projects will be implemented:

(a) Indepth census analysis

Following on the preliminary census analysis programme, the Demography Unit will be conducting an indepth analysis of census data and preparing monographs for three countries - Grenada, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and British Virgin Islands, under a UNFPA funded project in co-operation with CARICOM and ISER.

Missions are being sent to the participating countries to assist in establishing an advisory committee responsible for articulating the government's population-related needs and concerns as well as collaborating on the development of the monographs;

113. (b) Population projections

Population projections are being developed for nine countries viz:- Dominica, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Montserrat, British Virgin Islands, Saint Christopher-Nevis, Commonwealth of the Bahamas and Belize with financing from the UNFPA Project on "Analysis of Census Data".

In order to strengthen the capabilities of CDCC member countries in carrying out projections for their own countries, a training workshop on "Population Projections" is being conducted. As a final output, participants will utilise their own country data to develop projections which will then be refined for submission to their governments.

In order to extend the project to all CDCC member countries, additional funding is required;

114. (c) Population policy formulation

The second in a series of two-week training courses on population policy formulation will be conducted for four more countries viz:- Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Barbados and Grenada, with the objective of strengthening the capabilities of the governments in the formulation and implementation of population policies. The project is being organized and funded by CARICOM/USAID;

115. (d) Microcomputers for demographic analysis

A six-week training course on "The Application of microcomputers to the collection and analysis of demographic data in the Caribbean" will be conducted with the aim of improving the capabilities of planners/statisticians conducting research in the field of demography. The course will seek to provide training in the following areas: installation and operations, use of software packages, techniques of demographic analysis and planning/policy making.

Approximately 15 persons are expected to participate from four to five countries to be selected. An additional component of the project is the provision of three microcomputers to the participating countries.

Additional funding is required to enable the participation of the CDCC member countries;

116. (e) Regional population and development seminar for family planners

A three-day training seminar on population and development will be conducted for the family planning associations of the CDCC member countries. The programme, which is being organized by the Trinidad and Tobago Family Planning Association, aims at increasing the understanding among family planners of ways in which population should be considered in the development and planning process. A total of 30 persons are expected to attend the seminar which is being funded by CARICOM/USAID with some assistance from UNFPA;

117. (f) Cost-benefit analysis

A cost-benefit analysis of the Trinidad and Tobago Family Planning Programme is being carried out in collaboration with the Population Council, Centre for Policy Studies. The programme is being funded by the ECLAC/CDCC Secretariat;

118. (g) Migration project

One of the follow-up activities to the recently completed vital statistics project has been the development of a project to improve the process of data collection and to devise methodology for measuring migration more accurately. A project proposal is being finalized and it is expected that activities will begin later this year;

119. (h) Intercensal estimates

A second follow-up activity to the vital statistics project will be the preparation of intercensal estimates in order to assist in the process of improving the quantity, quality and timeliness of population statistics. The expected programme output will be the publication of a bulletin containing intercensal estimates for CDCC member countries for the periods 1950-1960, 1960-1970 and 1970-1980;

120. (i) Demographic and health survey

The CDCC Secretariat will be collaborating with UWI and the Trinidad and Tobago FPA in conducting a Demographic and health survey of Trinidad and Tobago. The purpose of the survey is to provide updated information on the fertility and mortality situation of the country which is needed as inputs into the planning process. Technical assistance will also be provided in the analysis of data. The survey is a USAID/Westinghouse funded project; and

121. (j) Basic training course in demography

A two-week training course in basic demography will be conducted in Saint Christopher-Nevis for approximately 15 government officials from a wide cross section of ministries. The objective is to motivate persons concerned with the collection and collation of population data to ensure that, by their co-operative effort, the country can be assured of having an efficient and up-to date system for the collection of population data which is to be utilized in policy-making and administration.

Specific authority, endorsement, support etc. requested from CDCC

122. The Demography Unit has worked in close collaboration with, and provided relevant inputs in demographic data and its analysis to other sectors within the ECLAC/CDCC Secretariat.

123 During 1985, implementation of the Unit's work programme at the national level was confined to the English-speaking CDCC member countries. It is planned, starting 1986, to broaden the scope of the programme and to expand its operation activities to include other CDCC member countries.

124. In order to extend some of the activities on the programme to all CDCC member countries, additional funding is required. The Secretariat is seeking the support of the Committee in its request to relevant agencies for additional funding for the implementation of projects.

H. Transport and Communications

Activities accomplished

125. (a) Implementation of the recommendations of the Caribbean Airports Maintenance and Operations Study (CAMOS)

The Secretariat continued to assist in efforts to identify additional funding resources. The Canadian aid programme which is providing assistance mainly to Jamaica, Barbados and the smaller states in the English-speaking Eastern Caribbean is being executed on a bilateral basis. Discussions were held in CGCED with representatives from the EEC to seek additional funding for those Caribbean countries excluded from the Canadian programme and for the technical areas not funded by Canada.

Discussions were also held with officials from the CARICOM Secretariat and the Netherlands Antilles in preparation for submission of funding requests to the EEC under Lomé III. At the CARICOM Standing Committee of Ministers of Transport (SCMT) meeting held in Barbados from 17 - 19 February 1986, the CARICOM Secretariat indicated that a short list of funding projects in transport had been produced and CAMOS was not included. CARICOM would communicate this information to the Netherlands Antilles. It was also indicated that the CARICOM Secretariat was holding bilateral discussions with a potential donor to fund the CAMOS recommendations;

126. (b) Caribbean Postal Union (CPU)

Discussions have been held with several CDCC member governments in an attempt to find a postal administration prepared to host the CPU for the initial period. This matter was also to be discussed at a UPU-sponsored meeting of Caribbean Post Masters held in Antigua and Barbuda in March 1986. If a host administration is identified, it is anticipated that the CPU will be formally inaugurated during the latter half of 1986;

127. (c) Caribbean satellite system

It is not yet certain that the Italian Government would provide funding for this study as had been originally hoped. Efforts have been concentrated on seeking alternative funding sources. One potential source being explored is the UNDP Regional IPF. Other possible bilateral sources are being explored.

The Secretariat has worked closely with ITU in this respect and discussions have been held with the CARICOM Secretariat in seeking their support for the use of UNDP regional funds. The CARICOM SCMT agreed to establish a Committee to formulate a regional policy on telecommunications development. There would also be work undertaken at the national level. This work would proceed in parallel with the proposed satellite feasibility study;

128. (d) Commercial maritime project (UNCTAD/TRAINMAR)

The Secretariat held discussions with UNCTAD/TRAINMAR and UNDP in an effort to mobilize funding so that the countries of the English-speaking Caribbean can benefit from this comprehensive programme which offers training courses in all aspects of maritime commercial activity.

The SCMT approved in principle the TRAINMAR programme and requested that the CARICOM Secretariat in collaboration with the ECLAC/CDCC Secretariat refine and finalize the project proposal for submission to the CARICOM Common Market Council for possible inclusion as a priority project for funding under the UNDP Fourth Cycle.

It is anticipated that assistance can be given to the regional training courses currently being offered by the Caribbean Shipping Association. Subsequently, it is hoped that bilateral funding will be obtained to expand the training courses being offered, possibly with collaboration from an established maritime training centre in North America;

129. (e) Collaboration with IMO Regional Maritime Safety Adviser

An IMO Regional Maritime Safety Adviser assumed duties, based in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, in September 1985. A close working relationship has been established with the Secretariat in all matters of maritime safety including search and rescue. Governments requesting assistance in the area of maritime safety can request the services of the regional adviser either through the Secretariat or through the offices of the UNDP Resident Representative; and

130. (f) Assistance to regional institutions

Close working relationships have been maintained with CARICOM, CDB, OECS and WISCO. In particular, assistance was given to the CARICOM Secretariat in the drafting of terms of reference for a sector study on Regional Maritime Transport Policy.

Activities proposed for the next period

131. (a) Continuation of work on transport within the CGCED with particular reference to obtaining funds for the implementation of the CAMOS study;

(b) To convene, in conjunction with the Joint ECLAC/ILPES Planning Unit, the second meeting of transport planners;

(c) Assistance with implementation of the Caribbean satellite feasibility study, once funding has been obtained;

(d) Participation in the CARICOM Committee established to formulate a regional policy on telecommunications development;

(e) Continued participation in the CARICOM Committee preparing the draft Maritime Code and its regulations;

(f) Convening the inaugural meeting of the Caribbean Postal Union once a host administration has been identified;

(g) Assistance with implementation of the TRAINMAR programme of instruction to the English-speaking Caribbean;

(h) Working with the Maritime International Co-operation Centre of Japan (MICC) in organizing Caribbean participation in group training courses in shipping business from 1987; and

(i) Collaboration with the IMO Regional Maritime Safety Adviser.

I. Energy and Natural Resources

Activities accomplished

132. (a) Energy

In a follow-up to the ECLAC/CDB Seminar on the Basic Elements of Quantitative Energy Economic Analysis and Planning held at CDB in April 1985, the Secretariat has obtained a copy of the software package used by the seminar participants. This package is available for use at the Caribbean Subregional Headquarters of ECLAC.

During the CGCED meeting held in Washington in June 1985, there was a thorough discussion of a paper prepared by CDB on the Regional Energy Action Plan (REAP). It was agreed that the Secretariat would approach the Embassy of Japan in Port of Spain in an attempt to seek funding for the automotive part of REAP which initially was proposed as a policy study intended to assist governments in formulating policies and strategies for dealing with the energy demand in the automotive sector. The Secretariat proposed that this study be broadened to include an automotive development programme utilizing alternative fuel. The proposal for funding has also been discussed with the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, but to date no response has been forthcoming.

Arrangements are being made with the Federal Republic of Germany for two consultants to visit the Caribbean to offer further assistance as a follow-up to the ECLAC/CDB seminar held in 1985. There is the possibility that if there is sufficient demand from CDCC countries, a repeat of last year's seminar would be held in 1986.

133. (b) Natural resources, tourism and environment

National workshops were convened jointly by ECLAC and the respective governments of Saint Christopher-Nevis, Antigua and Barbuda and Saint Lucia to discuss the recommendations of the national case studies commissioned by the Secretariat (See Documents: WP/ETCD/L.85/3; WP/ETCD/L.84/4; WP/ETCD/L.85/6). The participation at these national workshops included both private and public sector personnel.

The Secretariat completed the monograph "Tourism and Environment in Caribbean Development with Emphasis on the Eastern Caribbean" (WP/ETCD/L.85.2) which was presented at the "Wider Caribbean Expert Meeting on Environment and Tourism in Caribbean Development".

The Meeting was co-sponsored by the Caribbean Trust Fund of the Environment and UNEP and was convened by the ECLAC/CDCC Secretariat, Trinidad and Tobago, 2 - 4 December 1985. Participants included among other representatives of the wider Caribbean, namely, Antigua and Barbuda, Commonwealth of the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, British Virgin Islands, Costa Rica, Dominica, France, Grenada, Guatemala, Republic of Guyana, Republic of Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Montserrat, the Netherlands Antilles, Panama, Saint Christopher-Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, United States Virgin Islands and Venezuela.

The objectives of the expert meeting were to develop guidelines and recommendations and to propose concrete follow-up actions to be considered by the countries in their efforts to enhance their natural and cultural resource base and environmental assets for the promotion of tourism development in an attempt to achieve a more meaningful contribution from tourism to the overall economic and social development process. A complete set of conclusions and recommendations is contained in the report of the meeting;

134. (c) Multidisciplinary approaches to tourism

The Committee at its Ninth Session in June 1985, expressed its approval of the intensification of the Secretariat's activities in the field of a multidisciplinary approach towards the nexus tourism-natural resources-environment development. In this respect, the Secretariat consulted with the Caribbean Tourism Research Centre (CTRC) and the Organization of American States (OAS) on ways and means to co-operate and collaborate in line with their respective work programmes.

- (i) The Secretariat and CTRC discussed the possibility of convening a joint workshop on "The Promotion and Negotiation of Tourism Development Proposals with Hotel and Airline Corporations". The project idea was submitted to the United Nations Centre of Transnational Corporations which has agreed to fund the workshop;
- (ii) The Secretariat was instrumental in securing the services of a CTRC staff member in the preparation of a tourism development plan for Belize; and
- (iii) The Secretariat participated in an OAS workshop on "Improving Tourism-related Facilities in Downtown and Harbour front Areas" held in Antigua from 16 - 20 September 1985.

The Secretariat intends to continue the consultations with the hope that joint programmes will be developed before the next session of CDCC; and

135. (d) Regional sewage disposal and coastal conservation studies

The Secretariat prepared the outline of a project proposal on regional sewage disposal and coastal conservation studies. This proposal is a follow-up to the joint UNEP/ECLAC project "Tourism and Environment in the Wider Caribbean". It is expected that the Government of Barbados, CARICOM, CDB, and PAHO will collaborate with the Secretariat in further project formulation and resource mobilization.

Other activities

136. The Secretariat also:

- (i) Participated in the "Trinidad and Tobago National Consultation on the Environment" and submitted a conceptual report on "The Role of an Environmental Impact Assessment and Beyond";

- (ii) Consulted with the Government of Trinidad and Tobago on concepts of tourism planning;
- (iii) Participated in the Environmental Impact Assessment Training Course held in Trinidad, 16 - 20 February, 1986, organized by the Caribbean Conservation Association and the University of the West Indies; and
- (iv) Consulted with the Institute of Marine Affairs of Trinidad and Tobago on critical resource elements for tourism development in Tobago.

Activities not accomplished, postponed or discontinued

137. The implementation of the project on "Environmental Management and Development Planning in Caribbean Countries" was deferred pending availability of funds.

Activities proposed for the next period

138. (a) Continuation of work on the "Regional Sewage Disposal and Coastal Conservation Studies" with particular reference to resource mobilization;

139. (b) Initiation of follow-up projects emanating from the "Tourism and Environment in the Wider Caribbean" project. In this respect, close collaboration will be sought from relevant regional and extraregional institutions; and

140. (c) Possible implementation of the project "Environmental Management and Development Planning in the Caribbean". Implementation is subject to the availability of funds.

Specific authority, endorsement, support etc., requested from CDCC

141. The Committee may wish to express its gratitude to the Caribbean Trust Fund (of the Environment Programme) and UNEP for their support of the "Tourism and Environment in the Wider Caribbean" project and to urge member countries which have not yet done so to accede to the "Convention on the Protection and Development of the Wider Caribbean Region" and to the "Protocol concerning Co-operation in Combating Oil Spills in the Wider Caribbean Region".

142. In view of the fact that pollution and coastal erosion cause the deterioration of marine ecosystems and resources which are vital to public health, the sustenance of tourism and coastal fisheries and concomitantly to the economic viability of many CDCC member countries, the Committee is asked to endorse and support the project proposal "Regional Sewage Disposal and Coastal Conservation Studies".

Other activities of the Secretariat

Economic survey of Caribbean countries

143. The Secretariat continued in 1985 to prepare the annual survey and notes for ECLAC member or associate member countries within the responsibility of the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean.

144. The Secretariat has been able to obtain the collaboration of other agencies such as the Economic Affairs Secretariat of OECS, the CARICOM Secretariat, the Inter-Agency Resident Mission and the Caribbean Development Bank, with a view to the earlier publication of the document, and also to involve individuals in these agencies in the writing of surveys of this kind.

145. The timing of the conduct of the survey is determined by the earliest date on which full year preliminary data for the countries become available. Mid-March seems to be the earliest date on which a data collection exercise would be fruitful. The result is the production of a document which, even if published according to schedule, would be some ten months after the year of reference. The delays in the preparation of national statistics prevent the prompt implementation of corrective policy enactment. The Secretariat continues to encourage the modernization of data preparation and processing. To this extent, the meeting of regional statisticians convened by the Secretariat in November 1985 identified a mechanism to promote the capture, retrieval and early use of statistics to the benefit of national planners and other researchers.

146. As countries acquire computer hardware, the Secretariat would be able to provide assistance to them in the planning and use of the technology for maximum effectiveness relative to the establishment and maintenance of mechanized statistical data bases and to the deepening of analysis.

ECLAC support to Eastern Caribbean countries

147. In accordance with the mandate contained in CDCC Resolution II(VI), the following activities were implemented relative to ECLAC support to the member countries of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS).

148. (a) In the context of the ongoing OECS Secretariat exercise on the harmonization of customs regulations and the preparation of a common tariff system for OECS, the following tasks were undertaken:

- (i) Participation in the preparation of a report on the Meeting of Comptrollers of Customs held in Dominica, 2 - 9 September 1985;
- (ii) Collaboration with OECS/EAS (Economic Affairs Secretariat) in the review of the CARICOM Rules of Origin as they affect OECS countries. The exercise also involved the preparation of a study on deepening customs union relationships in the OECS and a review of issues relating to tariff harmonization; and

(iii) Developing a blueprint for institutionalizing aspects of the customs union i.e.

- Common system of trade laws based on model legislation prepared in Dominica.
- Evaluation of effective rates of tariff on imports into the OECS countries.
- Examination of the relationship of these effective rates to CARICOM proposals on the common external tariff, the global system of trade preferences and the introduction of the harmonized commodity description and coding system; and

149. (b) Provided advisory assistance in the preparation of the implementation plan and other preliminary activities in connection with the pharmaceutical project in the OECS countries and maintained consultations with USAID in this regard; and

150. (c) Assisted a government interdepartmental group in Saint Lucia with the preparation of the Saint Lucia/USA double taxation agreement which it is hoped would serve as a model for OECS countries. Also assisted in drafting the Saint Lucia/France double taxation convention. Advisory assistance was also provided in the consideration of the draft OECS/Canada double taxation treaty.

151. In addition to the above, a number of activities have been carried out through the programme of assistance and advisory services of the Secretariat. These include:

- (i) A report on a revision of the OECS countries' contribution in navigation and the communications system;
- (ii) Preparation of a note on the reallocation of navigation user charges and a more in-depth study of the system for financing civil aviation navigation and communications services throughout the OECS; and
- (iii) General assistance in connection with other work programme elements as they relate to the OECS countries including areas such as agricultural research, information and documentation.

Caribbean/Latin American Relations

152. The Secretariat's involvement in a specific programme of activity in this field derives from ECLAC Resolution 440 (XIX) titled "Technical and Economic Co-operation between the Countries of the Caribbean and other Countries of the Region" passed at the nineteenth session of ECLAC in 1981.

153. Specific activities undertaken during the year involve research, collection of relevant social and economic data with drafting of internal notes on the subject and establishing and maintaining contact with relevant governments and organizations at the national, subregional and Latin American regional level.

154. The Secretariat continues to act as a catalyst to foster and intensify co-operation and collaboration both between English and non-English-speaking Caribbean countries, between the Caribbean subregion and other countries of Latin America and with Latin American organizations. There was increased activity within the sectoral programme elements as pointed out in this document and in the paper dealing with Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (in the Caribbean). In agriculture, information and documentation, development planning, demography, science and technology and environment/tourism for example, contacts and some specific initiatives are already underway.

155. Contacts have been intensified with SELA, CIAT, OAS and IDB among others. Additionally, joint units involving ILPES and CELADE have been formed recently in the ECLAC Subregional Headquarters for the Caribbean and one involving FAO is in an advanced stage of planning, but these are dealt with elsewhere.

156. With respect to TCDC, preliminary approaches have been made to Latin American and Caribbean countries in the context of Latin American regional technical assistance and individual Latin American and Caribbean country initiatives as well as at the level of organizations.

II. SPECIFIC AUTHORITY, ENDORSEMENT, SUPPORT AND OTHER
ACTION REQUESTED FROM CDCC IN CONNECTION WITH THE
SECRETARIAT'S WORK PROGRAMME

157. The Secretariat wishes to draw to the attention of the Committee the following requests relative to the various elements of the ECLAC/CDCC work programme.

A. Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries

Co-operation in information (paras. 5 - 21)

158. Following endorsement of the conclusions by the Committee of the Ministerial Meeting held in Barbados from 4 - 8 March 1985 under the joint auspices of ECLAC/WIPO/CARICOM, the Secretariat requests the support of the Committee in urging member governments to name their focal points for patent documentation and information in order to facilitate development of this important network. The Committee may wish to express its thanks to IDRC for their generous support in strengthening the activities of the Caribbean Documentation Centre and the information networks of the Caribbean Information System.

Statistical Data Bank (paras. 22 - 28)

159. Member countries are urged to accelerate the acquisition of compatible computer hardware that would manage more effectively than by manual processes the data collected and stored for use. Member countries are also urged to access data from the Secretariat and participate more freely in the exchange of information.

Co-ordination in planning (paras. 47 - 62)

160. Member countries are asked to endorse or otherwise comment on and to support and participate in the work programme of the Joint ECLAC/ILPES Planning Unit for the Caribbean, especially in the areas of advisory services, research, training and the promotion of horizontal co-operation efforts.

Agricultural sector (paras. 63 - 72)

161. The Committee may wish to register its appreciation to the Joint ECLAC/FAO Division and the FAO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean in Santiago, or their support in developing linkages directly with the ECLAC Subregional Office for the Caribbean and especially for their efforts in jointly convening the Workshop on Food Systems and Food Policy Analysis and also the Workshop on Agricultural Planning Systems and Activities in the English-speaking Caribbean countries.

Education and culture (paras. 75 - 85)

162. The Secretariat would like to elicit support from the Committee for its proposals on the Language Barriers project proposal.

The Committee may also wish to express its gratitude to IDRC for its generous funding and keen interest shown in the project Creole Discourse and Social Development.

The integration of women in development (paras. 86 - 97)

163. The Committee may wish to acknowledge the continued support provided to the Secretariat by UNICEF and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).

The Committee may also wish to express its appreciation to the Government of the Netherlands for agreeing to provide a Junior Professional Officer for the period of two years to assist in the implementation of the Secretariat's programme of work in women in development activities.

Demography Unit (paras. 98 - 124)

164. The Demography Unit has worked in close collaboration with, and provided relevant inputs in demographic data and its analysis to other sectors within the ECLAC/CDCC Secretariat.

During 1985, the implementation of the Unit's work programme at the national level was confined to the English-speaking CDCC member countries. It is planned, starting in 1986, to broaden the scope of the programme and to expand its operation activities to include other CDCC member countries.

In order to extend some of the activities on the programme to all CDCC member countries, additional funding is required. The Secretariat is seeking the support of the Committee in its request to relevant agencies for additional funding for the implementation of projects.

Energy and Natural Resources (paras. 132 - 142)

165. The Committee may wish to express its gratitude to the Caribbean Trust Fund (of the Environment Programme) and UNEP for their support of the "Tourism and the Environment in the Wider Caribbean" project and to urge member countries which have not yet done so to accede to the "Convention on the Protection and Development of the Wider Caribbean Region" and to the "Protocol concerning Co-operation in Combating Oil Spills in the Wider Caribbean Region". In view of the fact that pollution and coastal erosion cause the deterioration of marine ecosystems and resources which are vital to public health, the sustenance of tourism and coastal fisheries and concomitantly to the economic viability of many CDCC member countries, the Committee is asked to endorse and support the project proposed for regional sewage disposal and coastal conservation studies.

